

1. A portable electronic device that is reprogrammable through a pager network, the device comprising:

a communications port;

a data transceiver for transmitting send data and receiving receive data from a pager network;

a processor in electronic communication with the communications port for communicating through the communications port, the processor also being in electronic communication with the data transceiver for communications with the pager network; and

reprogrammable memory programmed with instructions to cause the device to receive new program code from the pager network and to reprogram the reprogrammable memory with the new program code.

2. The device as defined in claim 1 wherein the communications port comprises a serial communications port for electronically connecting the device to another electronic device.

3. The device as defined in claim 1 enclosed in a plastic snap-fit enclosure.

4. The device as defined in claim 1 further comprising a single-board computer, the single board computer including the processor and the memory.

5. The device as defined in claim 4 wherein the single-board computer and the data transceiver are connected by a serial connection.

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7. The device as defined in claim 6 wherein the housing is plastic and snap-fit.

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8. The device as defined in claim 6 wherein the microcontroller is a 16-bit microcontroller.
9. The device as defined in claim 6 wherein the microcontroller is an 8-bit microcontroller.
10. A method for reprogramming an electronic device through use of a pager network comprising:
 - providing an electronic device comprising:
 - a communications port;
 - a data transceiver for transmitting send data and receiving receive data from a pager network;
 - a processor in electronic communication with the communications port for communicating through the communications port, the processor also being in electronic communication with the data transceiver for communications with the pager network; and
 - flash memory;
 - providing power to the electronic device;
 - establishing communications with the pager network;
 - receiving receive data from the pager network that includes new instructions; and
 - storing the new instructions in the flash memory of the device thereby reprogramming the device to add new capability to the electronic device.
11. The method as defined in claim 10 wherein the communications port comprises a serial communications port for electronically connecting the device to another electronic device.
12. The method as defined in claim 10 wherein the electronic device is enclosed in a plastic snap-fit enclosure.
13. The method as defined in claim 10 wherein the electronic device further comprises a single-board computer, the single board computer including the processor and the flash memory.

15. A portable electronic device that is reprogrammable through a pager network, the device comprising:

means for storing data;

means for causing the device to receive new program code from the pager network through the means for communicating with the pager network and to reprogram the means for storing data with the new program code to give the device new functionality.

17. The device as defined in claim 15 further comprising a single-board computer, the single board computer including the means for processing and the means for storing.

19. The device as defined in claim 18 wherein the microcontroller is a 16-bit microcontroller.

20. The device as defined in claim 18 wherein the microcontroller is an 8-bit microcontroller.